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THE BELL RINGER



Vol. 45 No. 5

MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY

FEBRUARY 20, 1989

Novak Bids MBA Farewell

by Keith Ikard

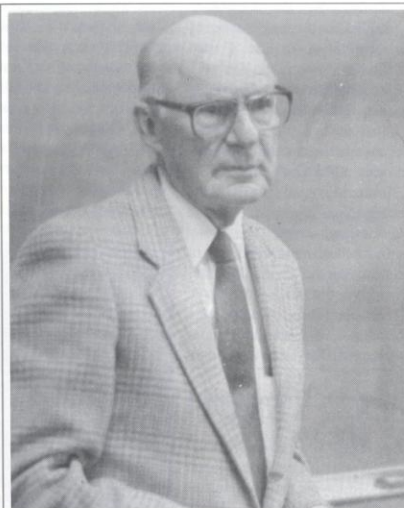
staff writer
1989 brings MBA to the end of yet another era. It is the era of a pal and confidante; the era of a father, an adopted uncle away from home. After this year, MBA loses a great friend: Mr. Novak. This wonderful, kind man has an incredible life history.

Mr. Novak was born in Providence, Rhode Island on October 9, 1918. He was educated in the public school system of New York City where, he says, "I met some of the greatest teachers that I have ever known." Mr. Novak eagerly signed up to serve our country on the day after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. On March 3, 1942, he was accepted into the United States Air Force. He spent the next 18 months on various bases across the United States, training for the war.

Mr. Novak spent another year and a half in England as the assistant to the engineering officer who "checked on the maintenance, repair, and upkeep of all the air planes."

Prior to leaving the Smyrna Air Force Base, Mr. Novak met his wife, who encouraged him to take advantage of the G.I. Bill of Rights and go to college. He went to Peabody, taking classes in the morning and working in the afternoon. Mr. Novak won his Bachelors Degree in education and social studies, and he went on to receive his M.A. at Vanderbilt in high school administration.

In 1953, Mr. Novak started teaching at Montgomery Bell Academy, where he handled the entire seventh grade. Eventually, MBA came to need a qualified science teacher, and the school encouraged Mr. Novak's re-



Coach Novak ponders his bone-chilling response to a student's inane question.

turn to Vanderbilt to learn to teach the science course he is now teaching. He quotes himself from another article, "[I would do] Whatever the school wanted me to do. If they wanted me to teach Greek they would send me to Athens. I'd teach any course they want."

Since the arrival of Mr. Novak, who resembles a storybook grandfather/teacher named Mr. Chips, there have been many changes in our institution. Recalling these changes, Mr. Novak notes, "The students have changed very little; An MBA boy is still an MBA boy. But the facilities have changed. We've added more buildings and we've got a different curriculum. We've got more courses, but basically everything is just about the way it was when I first came here." see "Novak," page three

U.N. Assembly Strives for Peace

by Casey Jones

staff writer
On January 10, 1988, the second annual Model United Nations Assembly was held at MBA. The event, directed by Mr. Mikell in coordination with his government class, provided students who participated a chance to debate and vote on domestic and foreign issues concerning the United States.

As expected with a large number of students and thus, such a diversified group of countries gathering in one

place, many various types of apparel were displayed. As some were dressed in togas and others were dressed for war, the most outrageous costume was presented by Rhodes Hall, the delegate representing Jamaica. Rhodes combined a distinctive Jamaican air with a bit of outrageousness in his apparel with a wig and slashed khakis. The costume that won the prize for closest resemblance to his country's leader's clothing was Rabin Nimmo's. His fatigues and ci-

see "Assembly," page two

MBA Receives National Forensics Award

by David Lott

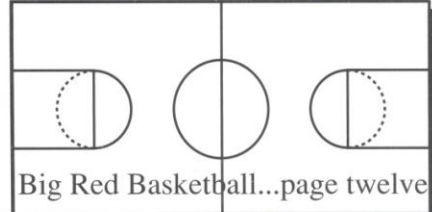
staff writer
On Monday, January 9, James Copeland, secretary of the National Forensic League, presented to Montgomery Bell Academy a prestigious award. This award is presented to only seventy-eight schools nationwide each year. The award is based on a school's performance in different speaking and debating events. These points are gained by participating in and winning debate

tournament all across the country; we all know that our team wins something at every tournament they go to, and they often take first prize.

This award is very prestigious for three reasons. First, this award is presented to only one school in each state each year. Additionally, the N.F.L. is recognized nationally as an honor organization and has members in the U.S. Congress;

it is a great and widely proclaimed league indeed. Finally, M.B.A.'s performance is particularly outstanding because our school met the requirements for the award in the minimum time possible: five years. This achievement, although not unique, is nonetheless outstanding because it is rarely gained by any school in the country. The reception of the award see "Award," page three

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Find out what's behind
The Temple of Doom
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Yet another chapter of
Poor Richie's Almanac
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Linemen outline the laws of love

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Patrick Wilson Library
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NEWS AND FEATURES

Former Secretaries of State Have Conference in Nashville

by Lawrence Berman

copy editor

On Friday, December 9, 1988, five of America's former chief foreign policy makers came to Nashville to discuss their views on current issues at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center (TPAC). Among other leaders of the community and nation, many representatives of MBA braved the snowy weather to see former secretaries of state Dean Rusk of the Democratic Kennedy and Johnson Administrations, William P. Rogers of the Republican Nixon Admin., Henry Kissinger of the Republican Nixon and Ford Administration., Cyrus Vance of the Democratic Carter Admin., and Edmund Muskie of the Democratic Carter Administration. Unfortunately, Alexander Haig, who served in 1981 and 1982 for Reagan

was unable to attend. These men have a unique insight into national affairs that make the men themselves a national resource. Former ABC News anchor man, Edwin Newman mediated the discussion.

After an introduction from Mayor Bill Boner followed by words from Governor Ned McWherter, the secretaries talked about current issues of importance to the United States.

They began by discussing the Gorbachev UN speech that had been a dramatic change from traditional Soviet political rhetoric. The secretaries all praised the speech as a positive sign, but Kissinger noted that it may have been motivated out of less than munificent, humanitarian motives. He pointed out that their economy is a mess and needs to be improved, that the Soviets might

not really know how to fix their economy, and that there are many new powers growing on the Soviet borders. As to what the West should do in response, Vance said that we have not lost any initiative. Rogers, Rusk, and Muskie concur that the best action for America is to do nothing and wait for the Soviets to act. Rusk praised the promised defensive stance the Soviets want to assume, but Kissinger warned of the difficulty in defining defensive armament. Kissinger further advised that the West may suffer from a lack of a clear concept of what it is trying to do in conventional arms reduction and that problems will arise unless we know exactly what NATO's goals are.

The symposium then turned its attention to the defense budget. Muskie proclaimed that this is a neces-



Edwin Newman (back facing) begins the conference with (from left to right) Dean Rusk, William Rogers, Henry Kissinger, Cyrus Vance, and Edmund Muskie.

sary and opportune time for restraint. Rusk likewise believes the Soviet military will lose power in the face of growing public awareness and need. Kissinger, however, disagreed, saying that changing our foreign policy on the basis of a speech is dangerous, and he questioned

whether there really was true democracy beginning to form in the Soviet Union. Vance made the astute comment that whatever the Soviets are doing, there is some new democracy and we have plenty of time to wait and watch. Kissinger advised that see "Conference," page five

...UN Assembly

...continued from page one

gar closely resembled those of Fidel Castro, the Cuban dictator.

Although the varied costumes of the delegates provided an air of humility, the representatives of the countries presented three resolutions which passed by a wide margin. The first resolution, authored by the representative of Italy, Mark Thraillkill, dealt with the growing concern for terrorist actions throughout the world. The proposal supporting the resolution would allow the United Nations to endorse and support an international policy of information and resource sharing for all anti-terrorist activities and unified extradition procedures for terrorist prosecution.

Also supporting the resolution was Israel, represented by Rick Barksdale, which set forth a failing amendment which said that a country found guilty of any terrorist activities should have embargoes placed upon it by all United Nations. Major countries participating in this debate included Japan, represented by Jim Abernathy, West Germany (John Smith-

wick), and Cuba (Rabin Nimmo). Israel and Japan sided, saying that all countries should work together to fight terrorism. West Germany and Cuba opposed the bill, stating that accusations could be thrown by various countries, resulting in great turmoil.

Resolution #2 dealt with the ever-expanding problem of drugs in the world today and the possible beginning of an International Drug Commission. Both Peru, the author of the resolution, and Mexico (Bill Cherry), supported the proposal because they felt that the world is hampered by the growing drug problem. The Jamaican and Argentinean representatives were against the beginning of a drug commission because in their opinions, smaller, underdeveloped countries rely on drug trade for economic support. This resolution passed 19-10 with five countries abstaining.

Finally, the third resolution, presented by Norwegian representative Mark LaVigne, dealt with the worldwide problem of acid rain and the growing concern for the Greenhouse Effect. Favoring the resolution, the Grecian representative replied that the agricultural effects would be

an increase in the world-wide temperature of about five to eleven degrees Celsius. Norway's argument included facts that the skin cancer rate is increasing along with the earth's temperature. Opposed to this resolution, Panamanian representative Chris Shea thought that the problem of acid rain is each country's own responsibility and not a global concern. This resolution passed by a margin of twenty-one votes with one country abstaining from the voting.

This year's model United Nations was a large success due in part to the great number of students participating in the event. The chances to speak and debate about world matters gives to the participants knowledge about problems confronting the world today. The large number of students and countries represented at the model UN also give students a chance to learn more about the positions of many different countries and various resolutions. The model UN not only enlightens the students participating about world affairs, but also gives them experience in making important decisions and shaping the future of our world.

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1988-1989

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Chris Cigarran, David Daniels, Luke Davis, Rally Dupps, Scott Galloway, Chris Hall, Matt Inman, Billy Lyell, Matt Inman, Michael O'Hare, Jim Haynes, Rob Lentz, Stravan Kambam, Rabin Nimmo, Matt Poe, and Stuart Towery have made two contributions to the paper and now have two credits.

The following people have made one contribution to the paper and have one credit: Rick Barksdale, John Bass, Dan Brooks, George Crawford, Craig Davis, Todd Foust, Patrick Harkleroad, Art Holscher, Charles Israel, Hal Jones, Lee Page, Eugene Park, Andy Patterson, Deepak Raja, Arthur Reid, George Reitz, John Rochford, Martin Roberts, Jeremy Russell, Mark Szydlo, and David Trainer.

NEWS AND FEATURES

Debaters Continue Winning Ways

by Babu Paruchuri and
Craig Davis

staff writers
The MBA debate team has continued its winning ways. At the Southeast Burford Forum in Andrews, North Carolina, the team of Jonathan Reeve and Eugene Park placed second in the Round Robin division, comprised of numerous teams from across the nation. The team of Craig Davis and Babu Paruchuri placed first in the varsity division. Davis and Reeve won second place speaker in their respective divisions. In the novice division, the team of John Wesley and Robert Howell clinched fifth place out of a

pool of 40 teams.

At the Hume-Fogg tournament in Nashville, the team of Hal Jones and Park placed first in the varsity division while teammates Davis and Paruchuri placed second. In the novice division, the team of Garret Kyle and Howell placed second, edging out Wesley and Warren Connally, who placed third.

At the University of Pittsburgh Tournament, the team of Park and Hall again found success. As a team, they placed fifth among a competitive field. Individually, the top speaker award went to Park, and sixth place speaker went to Jones.

At the Goodpasture De-

bate Tournament, the team of Kyle and Howell was forced to settle for second place once again.

Immediately after Christmas holidays, the Southern Bell Forum was held at Montgomery Bell Academy. The tournament, considered one of the best in the country, involved 70 varsity cross-examination debate teams and 10 Lincoln-Douglas debaters from nearly 20 states. Under the direction of MBA's Mr. William Tate, the members of the debate team were able to keep the tournament running smoothly. This year's tournament marked the seventh straight successful Southern Bell Forum.

The Temple of Doom

by Brian Stephenson

writer

The new fire escape on the Ball Building has been the cause of much discussion and comment. "It's a monstrosity!" Mrs. Gariott. "It's the Tower of Babel," claims David Strayhorn. "It's necessary to bring the Ball Building up to the Fire Marshall's standards," explains Mr. Smith.

Evidently, the old fire escape was too steep. The Fire Marshall also objected to having to go through Mr. Drake's classroom to get to the fire escape. As a result, MBA built a new fire escape and turned half of B-2 into a hallway. For good measure, MBA also decided to paint the walls, add new carpet, and install fire doors. These fire doors, located between the office and the trophy room and also at the top at the stairs, are electronically controlled so that they will shut auto-

matically in the event of a fire, thus isolating the potential fire hazard of an open stairway.

Mr. Smith promises that the fire escape is not finished yet. A red wire mesh will enclose the fire escape sometime in the near future, and the square opening on the side facing Carter Hall will serve as a window (oh boy!). Because of the improvements that have been made, the Fire Marshall passed the new and improved Ball Building with flying colors on his January 26 inspection.

The monstrosity, however, is without a permanent and appropriate name. Some submissions of ideas have been made to Student Body President, John Smithwick, but most of these entries had to be censored. Additional entries may be submitted to John Smithwick (we think).

...Award

...continued from page one

speaks well for our school and portrays the excellence of our debate and speech program under the guidance of Mr. Tate.

This is the second time MBA has won this award since Mr. Tate's arrival to The Hill. Hopefully, his leadership in the speech and debate program will bring home awards like this one for many years to come.



The Assistant to the President of the N.F.L. proudly presents to MBA the prestigious award.

Recycling is a necessity

by Scott Galloway investigative reporter

America is rich in reusable resources. Failure to recognize such a fact can only lead to further destruction of our environment and a lack of raw materials. In one year, a city the size of San Francisco disposes of more aluminum than a small bauxite mine could possibly produce within a year. The amount of copper discarded by such a city is more than a medium sized copper mine produces annually. The amount of paper thrown away is more than a large timber region could produce in a year. If recycled paper were used instead of virgin paper for one print run of the Sunday edition of the New York Times, 75,000 trees would be saved. Recycling allows cities to become producers of raw materials rather than consumers. Recycling also adds to the enhancement of local economy and creates new job opportunities. Why not recycle?

(Source : Athens, Ltd.)

Good luck to the 1989 Swim
Team in the State Finals!!

-from a friend



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Novak's Farewell

...continued from page one

Mr. Novak said that he considers the boys whom he teaches as his own children. "If there is anyone who needs a father or mother at school, it is an MBA seventh grader. They don't have the friends they used to have, and they need someone's shoulder to cry on."

After he leaves MBA, Mr. Novak plans to do volunteer work for the hospital or for the Red Cross. He also plans to garden and do many other things. When asked if it would be difficult to leave MBA this year, he said, "My wife and I have been planning this for a while that I would leave. I spent half my lifetime at MBA. I'm slowing down just a little bit. I can't out run 'em anymore. I used to beat

every seventh grader in the 100 yard dash. I can't beat one of them now."

Mr. Novak feels that new blood and new ideas are helping the school every day. The philosophy that kept him going all these years was one of optimism. He said, "A teacher should be patient, have a sense of humor; he should be disciplined, firm but fair. I try for perfection. I know there is no perfection." As Mr. Novak leaves, every MBA boy feels great pain. He has been someone to talk to, laugh with and just be around. Gone will be the fire drills and the World War I history books.

Mr. Novak, we will all miss you. You will always be remembered as a great friend.

"FREEDOM OF THE
PRESS BELONGS TO
THOSE WHO OWN ONE."
-A.J. Liebling

NEWS AND FEATURES

Zermatt Welcomes Richard Fitzgerald

by David Daniels

reporter

Last fall, MBA sent a sophomore overseas for a semester of European culture and study. Richard Fitzgerald joined other sophomores from the United States in Zermatt, Switzerland, where a private, coed school is held for one semester. Upon learning of this educational opportunity from Mr. Drake a year ago, Richard, along with a few other of this year's sophomore class, seized the opportunity. This program each year looks for mature boys who are willing to study as well as enjoy Switzerland's outdoors. Richard was a natural selection. Now back from the Swiss Semester, Richard spoke to *The Bell Ringer* about his special semester.

"The skiing and outdoor aspect of the program caught my eye," Richard says, "for I have liked to ski, bike, and rock-climb for a long time. I also thought it might break up the year."

The Swiss semester is open to young American men and women, sophomores only, each year. Zermatt is a small town of about 500 people and is surrounded by huge mountains. Of geographic importance, the school overlooks the famous Matterhorn. Thus skiing and school are easily tied together in the late fall and winter. Actually, the ski lifts are about 50 yards from the classrooms. However, this was not Richard's first venture to Europe. This past summer, he enjoyed a trip to Germany and Norway. Richard took subjects similar to those offered at MBA: English, Algebra II, and French I. In addition, he took a course in humanities and a course in geology, offered because of surroundings such as the glaciers and various rock forms. Richard plans to continue his studies of humanities at MBA. In Switzerland, he conducted mostly private studies of subjects such as algebra. He would complete a certain number of subjects a night, having established his own

schedule, assuming that he found a complete allotment of subjects by the end of the semester. Richard seemed anxious to compare Swiss Semester with MBA.

"Zermatt might be tougher. Humanities was probably one of the hardest courses I have taken. The rest was probably evened out. Yet, at Zermatt one does not have enough time to work as at MBA. I had the same amount of work but less time. Zermatt is also harder because I have a semester's amount of work but two weeks less time (MBA has two extra weeks after Christmas). I might have two sections of math a night where I might have only one at MBA."

Richard also felt more pressured at the Swiss Semester than at MBA because of his strict, daily schedule. "At MBA, I could stay up as long as I wanted. But in Zermatt, there was a curfew at 11:00 p.m. when I had to go to bed. I had a study hall from 8:00 to 10:15 each night. So, I had to get my homework and studying done in that time." He also says the academic load is controlled by the students in Zermatt. He selects the subjects in which he is interested upon his arrival, and since he decides what needs to be done, "one could finish in two weeks or even wait 'til the last minute." He emphasizes though that this fact is assuming the student finishes his or her allotment by or at the end of the semester.

Despite the tough academic atmosphere in Zermatt, Richard did feel somewhat more relaxed in the classroom there than at MBA. He adds he was allowed to wear anything he chose, including t-shirts and cut-offs. Also, the classes were extremely small (nine people in some classes), so he got to know fellow Americans well. Living with his teachers at the same home allowed him to develop better relationships with them. He also enjoyed geology because of the exciting labs held each

Wednesday. He was able to explore glaciers and even ski to a rock formation site. Finally, the fact that the Swiss Semester is coeducational, he says, is a relaxing change from MBA.

After finishing his four daily classes, the exciting portion of the day began for Richard. His "after-school athletics" consisted of rock climbing and skiing: "We'd climb once a week and hike the rest of the days from September 1 'til late October. From October on, we skied every day. We had lessons 2 days a week and skied (on our own) the rest. On the weekends, we were free. We played soccer and were allowed to sign out to towns to eat out. Once skiing season started, you could go wherever you wanted. There were also several optional clubs, soccer games, or movies." Richard also enjoyed extra trips to Venice, Dispers, Geneva, and Burn. In comparing the after-school activities in Zermatt with MBA's required-athletic program, Richard finds the required activities in Switzerland to be more comfortable than the tight, competitive situation at MBA.

He found his living situation to be quite comfortable as well. He was exposed to traditional European meals which he enjoyed, but Richard did miss American food. He stayed in a 5-room chateau with four other roommates (from Boston, Detroit, Minneapolis, and Pennsylvania).

Finally, Richard strongly recommends this program and feels this is a tremendous opportunity for travel and schooling. "If I could do it again, I would in a second. It didn't even feel like school because there was so much to do. It is a great atmosphere and you meet lots of people. I wish it were a whole year." Thus, Swiss Semester is an excellent opportunity for someone who is mature enough to have his work done and then have free time for fun.

"If I could do it again, I would do it in a second."

-Richard Fitzgerald

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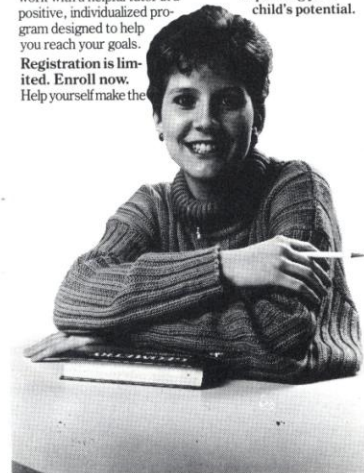
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FEATURES AND OPINIONS

Seniors Make Love Go 'Round

by Brooks Smith and
John Smithwick
staff writers

As young men slowly develop into a state of manhood (as the writers already have), they encounter a mix of emotions that can confuse, comfort, or contort the adolescent mind. Perhaps there is no more confusing an emotion than "love." Some say that love, and money, make the world go round. Others, like Kirk Douglas, would remark that love keeps the seething, uneducated masses from jumping out windows, while those with any brains realize that it is a man-made

emotion arising out of insecurity.

Brooks would remark that love is "an emotion in which two people share openly their inner doubts, concerns, questions, and pleasures." John would define love as the driving force for dorks like Brooks to break-up with his girlfriend every week, only to reunite in a passionate flurry of love-offerings. Brooks would then proceed to question John's masculinity. We both agree, however, that "love," is a catalyst for at-raxy or turmoil.

Just why do people love? Brooks would remark that

people love so that they may gain a greater awareness of life and the things life has to give. John would throw-up at this description. In truth, is not love really an excuse for two scared, insecure people to stand together against the trials of life? Does love not weaken the human soul, rather than forcing the soul to stand on its own, brave and strong against the sands of time? Brooks does not seem to think so. Heck, he actually seems to enjoy serving his woman as a dog would serve a master! Others, like Tom and Billy, would allow themselves to be consumed in a

whirlwind, like Job, of servitude and wonder, no longer able to stand for any sort of self-determination or dignity of purpose.

Let's look at a few examples of "love". John believes that love means leaving a poor, helpless, desperate girl entering womanhood at the doorstep of her house, while she beckons for support. Brooks, on the other hand, satisfies; he listens to the needs of poor, pre-adolescent chicks and does all in his power to let them understand the true meaning of life. Other MBA gentlemen, like Worcester, fail to "leash" their

babes, taking "love" whenever they can. Other's still, like Bo, love according to old songs, like "Strangers in the night". Bill, indicative of some, is a Yuppie of Love; (ask him if you have any questions).

This dissertation has tried to focus on the love between adolescents, not family. Is it truly better to have loved and lost than to have never loved at all?

By the way, any names mentioned heretofore have been changed to protect the innocent, and any similarities are purely coincidental.

...Secretaries of State Conference

...continued from page two
we should "respond positively," but that the United States should make a well planned, well defined response, not simply a military decision. Kissinger closed out the subject by noting just how little we know about the Soviets' intentions: since they have 15,000 tanks that are 30 or more years old, Gorbachev's speech could just be a cover for modernizing the military.

The impact on the future of NATO was the next topic of conversation. Muskie feels that a Soviet military reduction would do more to threaten NATO than anything else. A feeling of threat and impending danger has helped NATO to work together well for 40 years, and a perceived reduction could build a false sense of security within NATO. Rusk foresees a greater role for the Western European countries in

NATO. Kissinger agrees and thinks a greater role for the overseas NATO countries is a necessity. Rogers, on the other hand, disagrees, insisting that we should not try to fix a system that has worked well. Rogers also warns that it is Gorbachev's objective to weaken Western Europe. Vance, however, points out that NATO's organization should be flexible enough to fit the current situation and to change for the future.

Newman brought up a new issue by opening the topic of the federal budget and international balance of trade. Vance and Muskie agreed that our national debt is our biggest problem. Rusk furthered the consensus by adding that the deficit takes away our power. The United States ought to be setting a good example for the nations of Central and South America, continued Rusk. We can no longer effectively criticize

them without appearing to be hypocrites in the view of the rest of the world. Kissinger further brought out the severity of the argument saying that the deficit makes it possible to blackmail the U.S. Rogers does not think the problem is quite that crucial. He feels that it is Congress's responsibility to balance the budget. As far as saving money by not financing the defense of the entire free world, Rusk pointed out that the 600,000 troops we have overseas would cost just as much if they were stationed at home as they do stationed where they are unless they are demobilized. Kissinger quantified the situation somewhat, saying it only takes 16 divisions to defend the United States itself while it requires 80 divisions to hold all the positions our forces are currently defending. Kissinger continued suggesting that Europe will become increasingly able to pay for its share of its own defense.

Newman then moved the secretaries to a related topic. Rusk said that the plan on the part of twelve of the nations of Western Europe to become one market by 1992 is beneficial for America. The countries plan to operate with a single currency, a single tariff, and unrestricted trade between each other. Vance warned that if a "Fortress Europe" were created, the United States would suffer economically.

Moving on to an issue that

has begun now to fade from our country's attention, all of the secretaries unanimously criticized the Reagan Administration's decision to deny a visa to Arafat. Muskie said that denying the visa violated the UN contract. Rusk received loud applause for his comment that it is embarrassing for the United States to fear "a little man in a cloth hat". Kissinger suggested that the Iranian problems arose from Muslim fundamentalism. Once Iran realizes it cannot expand, the U.S. should wait for the return of the hostages and then support this country that borders the Soviet Union contended Kissinger.

On a similar note, Muskie recommended that the U.S. normalize relations with Cuba.

The final issue the secretaries addressed was foreign policy. The secretaries all basically agreed that a bipartisan foreign policy was necessary. Kissinger said that the U.S. has permanent interests that do not change except for differences on implementation. Rusk received a second round of applause for pointing out the stupidity of having others other than the State Department handle diplomacy. He said that each Congressman thinks he represents the United States to foreign governments. Worse

still, Rusk explained, are people such as Jesse Jackson who do not hold any elected office but still claim to represent the United States. Rogers suggested that with increasing numbers of various types of assistants, Congress is too big and needs reforms. Rusk continued, saying that most congressmen are so busy trying to pass bills for their constituents and campaigning for reelection that they do not have time to understand foreign policy issues as well as they need to. Kissinger thinks there is a need to set up and orient each congressman on the particular situations. Some administrations have had regular weekly meetings in which any congressmen could be briefed on foreign affairs. Kissinger drew murmurs from the audience with his final comment that the urgent matters in foreign policy in the future will overcome the important matters unless there is unified consistent effort.

The conference brought up some perplexing questions which the new Bush administration and America must handle. Hopefully, their continued efforts to bring to light their insights to foreign and domestic issues will help inform Americans of their country's stance in world's affairs.

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FEATURES AND OPINIONS

The Eagle Should Be Wary of the Bear

by Michael O'Hare

writer
The chilling and bone crackling rhetoric of the Stalin and Khrushchev eras have seemed to come to an end with the Russian Premier Mikhail Gorbachev (Breshnev not included for he no longer exists according to the latest Soviet reports). Gorbachev's new message to the world is one of peace and humanity, not "we will bury you." But can he be taken seriously, or is this just another Soviet ploy to bungle the West? Maybe Gorbachev has been taking lessons in Western philosophy for "it's far easier to win friends with honey than vinegar." To find the truth that the West is looking for, the West needs to hypothesize by examining the U.S.S.R. in its entirety and compare that to what Gorbachev has said.

During his U.N. speech, Gorbachev raised many interesting points that may have turned the heads of some of us Westerners. On the top of his list was human rights which emanates from his glasnost plan (openness). He believes that a closed society can no longer exist. To remedy this problem, he suggests the denunciation of force as an instrument of foreign policy. Turning to the attention of his people, he feels that the principles of freedom of choice are mandatory. But his biggest teaser of the speech was his proclamation of arms reduction. Gorbachev plans to reduce his armed forces by 10% in order to cut the huge expenditures spent on the world's strongest communistic military force. He also agreed to pull out all of the Soviet troops in Afghanistan by February 15. In the area of relations with the U.S., he desires for the West to continue our talks on nuclear arms reductions and an opening up of trade. To sum up Gorbachev's speech, he wants the U.S.S.R. to become a gentler and freer nation and to do that he must dispose of the nasty stigmas of the past.

If Gorbachev wants to be taken seriously, he must follow through to the fullest

degree his plans he has proposed. The main problem with Soviet leaders in the past has been their lack of trust. They tell Americans of the great world without nuclear weapons, and then con our leaders into excepting agreements which limit our nuclear capabilities (Salt I and Salt II) while they expand their own capabilities. It is up to Gorbachev to prove himself. So far, Gorbachev has come across as an honest and trustworthy fellow, but appearances mean little when there is no action to support them.

If we look at his *glasnost* plan, we will find that there is very little merit in it. First, his foreign policy proposal of denouncing the use or threat of force has the same adherence as Tyson's marriage. The Soviets still associate with known terrorist nations such as Libya and Nicaragua, and they are important nations to their own security. If Gorbachev is serious about his renunciation of force in his foreign policy, he must first renounce these countries. How can a country claim its goodness when it allies itself with evil countries? Inside the Soviet Union, Gorbachev proposes an openness to the freedom of speech and the freedom of choice. In actuality, he has unleashed restricted forms of human rights aimed at purging the grievances of the people, but still enabling the totalitarian socialist government to keep dominate control of the people. In the area of freedom of choice, he has actually lessened the total amount of goods available to the people and tighten the job restrictions in order to produce higher quality product under his *perestroika* (restructuring) plan.

Gorbachev said that he will cut his conventional weapons and men by 10% (500,000 soldiers, 10,000 tanks, 8,500 artillery systems, and 800 aircraft). He says that he will devote the money that is saved to the crippled Soviet economy. Are these military

cuts sincere? The billions of dollars estimated that will be saved from the military cuts will go to other third world nations to build up their communist regimes. I also seriously doubt that Gorbachev is going to cut back on his top of the line material. What he is doing is getting rid of the obsolete material that has become a cost burden and use it as a propaganda ploy to lull the westerners into relaxing their defense commitment. If one takes a careful study of Gorbachev's military spending for the past four years, one will notice that since 1985 the Soviets have fielded more tanks and artillery pieces that the armies of the British, French, and West Germans combined. How can we take these cuts seriously if the leader spends more on arms in the last four years than he proposes to cut in two? Also, how can Gorbachev be taken seriously when he says that these cut backs are to make his forces in eastern Europe defensive when his army of the Warsaw Pact will still have 2:1 advantages over the armies of NATO?

There is another disturbing appearance that leads to the conclusion that he is merely putting on an act. When the disastrous earthquake hit Armenia, Gorbachev rushed off to Armenia to provide humane aid to the grief-stricken province. Almost 80,000 people died in the earthquake. Multiply that number by fifteen and one gets the approximate number of people ruthlessly slaughtered in Afghanistan by the genocide government of the Soviet Union. Gorbachev has said that he will remove all his troops by February 15th. This proposal will be the tell-all of Gorbachev's sincerity. The withdrawal is a clear cut action. There is no debate about it. The Soviets either pull all their troops out by the 15th and gain credibility of they do not pull their troops out and thus lose their credibility. The West must pay attention to this particular event if we are to discover the Soviets' true worth and intent under their new leader.

In the area of Soviet-U.S. relations, the Soviets could be up to their old conniving tricks again. They want to ease tensions, reduce arms, and increase trade. By easing tensions, the Soviets hope to gain our trust so that the U.S. can sign more foolish agreements in order for them to destroy our SDI plans, to weaken NATO, and to eliminate nuclear weapons. After we have committed ourselves to their devious agreements, they will unleash their hidden stores of powerful illegal weapons to force us into submission.

In the area of economics, the Soviets are in a desperate situation. Their form of currency is the ruble, which is non-exchangeable on the international market. The only way that the Soviets can trade with other nations is through a barter system. This system does not lend itself well to a large capital gain for the Soviets under their *perestroika* plan. The only way they can remedy this problem, as capi-

talism is against their communist doctrine, is to turn the world into a large communistic market through world domination. For now, they are satisfied with just trying to increase their barter, so to speak, with the U.S. in order to get products or technology they lack.

The question whether or not the Soviets are sincere in their proposals is still open for debate. The intentions that I have presented here are based in weighing the facts of past actions, of the communist world dominations theory, and of the overall intent of Gorbachev. The U.S. should not base any of its policies on what Gorbachev has proposed. To cut our defense because they say that they will cut theirs would be a grave mistake. What the U.S. lawmakers need to do is to assess the Soviets' true commitment to their proposals and then base their actions on that criteria. The U.S. must not be lulled into a false sense of security by the new and surprising Soviet rhetoric.

The *Bell Ringer* will gladly accept any editorial from the MBA community for publication as long as it is in good taste. All editorials must be signed, although the author's name may be withheld upon request.

Any editorials for the next issue can be turned into Jason Burroughs, Marion Southall, or Dr. Niemeyer anytime before March 6.

Burkhalter and Associates

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GO BIG RED!

ENTERTAINMENT

No More Chappaquiddicks

An interesting thing happened to a good friend of mine early last December which might be of value to a young reader in the MBA community. On the evening of December 9, while returning home from a U.S. Secretaries of State discussion/ exhibition, a car traveling in the opposite direction swerved into my lane to avoid an inattentive driver. The result was a whirlwind of screeches, twisted metal and broken glass. No one, however, was injured.

The police and fire trucks were on the scene in minutes, clearing the streets and directing traffic. While I was waiting, my life-long companion (who attends a school other than Montgomery Bell, which happens to be a Catholic rival of MBA and to have the same mascot as Notre Dame) drove by, looked, stopped his car in front of mine, and leaped out, all in



Poor Richie's Almanac

one motion.

At that very same moment, the reporting police officer came to question me about the accident. Almost immediately, his keen nose sensed a whiff of grain alcohol. He said to me, "Alright, son, who's bin drankin' ? I smell alkeehall!" To which I responded, "It was certainly not I." He said, "Lemme smell your breath then, boy." And I breathed for him. Then he ordered my friend to do the same. The officer asked him how much he had had to

drink. My friend, who was more off-balance from the question than from the beverage, replied honestly, "I had a beer...I mean I just had about half a beer...I really just had a couple drinks of one beer." Infuriated, the cop inquired, "How old are you son?" "Seventeen." "Pull your car over there and wait until I'm done."

Now what was I supposed to say? "Well, thanks for stopping by." He parked his car to the side, and I went to talk with him. Worried about

what is to happen, he used an old Indian trick: eat snow. I left to go settle matters with the officer, who kindly told me that I was free to return home. Feeling slightly responsible for my friend's most dreaded situation, I tried to smooth things over. He instructed me that he, not I, will handle the problem. I, therefore, left quickly.

Hardly inebriated, my friend was arrested for public drunkenness, taken down to the Metro Juvenile Corrections Center while his car was being impounded, strip-searched, showered, and given a cell containing a silver toilet.

You see, the way the law reads is that people under the legal drinking age of twenty-one technically do not drink. There is, therefore, no need for a limit to determine either public drunkenness or driving under the influence. If the cop had seen him behind the

wheel, the officer would have had the opportunity to arrest him for drunk driving.

The issue here is not whether he should have had a couple drinks of beer, but whether he should have decided to drive home. Please don't be under the illusion that if one is not drunk, or at least below legal tolerance, one is not subject to a drunk driving arrest. The mere presence of alcohol on one's breath, as a minor, can cause many problems.

Clearly, the consequences of an accident involving both alcohol and fatalities would be tremendously upsetting to others, including family members. Take Senator Ted Kennedy of Massachusetts. The night that he, in a drunken stupor, drove his drunk mistress into the water of Chappaquiddick and drowned her has marred his entire political career.

Pink Floyd's

*Delicate Sound of Thunder

by Kevin Kruse, staff writer

After Roger Waters abandoned his role as leader of Pink Floyd for a solo career, the future of the group seemed to be over. However, the remaining core members (David Gilmour, Nick Mason, and Richard Wright) decided to ignore Waters' protests and issue an album, *A Momentary Lapse of Reason* (with Gilmour on vocals) and, subsequently, to tour, using the Pink Floyd name and trademarks that Waters says are rightfully his.

The new Pink Floyd has been successfully touring for a while now. In August of this year, several concert tracks were recorded and compiled in a double album LP *Delicate Sound of Thunder*, which, because of the Pink Floyd flair for long concert solos, contains only fifteen songs. *Thunder* tends to lean away from being a greatest hits album, because one-third of the songs are cuts from *Lapse*.

Strangely enough, Gilmour's Floyd seems to perform the songs that Waters wrote and recorded better than they perform Gilmour's own songs, with the possible exception of their rendition of "On the Turning Away", which is almost as good as the *Lapse* recording. "Shine on You Crazy Diamond" and "Another Brick in the Wall, Part II" are, despite the solo-lengthening, well-played on the whole. Gilmour, however, butchered some of Waters' classics; "Run Like Hell" is so heavy metal, it makes you want to do just that. By transforming the opening riffs of "Money" into an R&B statement and adding sickening back-up vocals, he experimented his way into a corner. The sad result sounded like a Metallica-meets-the-Commodores song.

"Comfortably Numb", however, is beautifully covered. Waters' psychotic opening pleas are kept, but sung in a slightly lighter, much better tone. In the main body of the song, where I had thought Waters had done an excellent job, Gilmour's live version is ten times better than the original *The Wall* recording.

Despite the failed experimentation, *Delicate Sound of Thunder* is a worthwhile collection, especially for a live album. Pink Floyd is definitely not dead.



Before we start, I would like to thank John Smithwick, Tom Lance, and Mike Seshul without whom the answers for all Fox's Dens would not be possible.

Dear Fox,

Dr. Crowell tells me that if I am arrested in any foreign country, I am likely to be tortured. Wishing to verify this matter with a man in the world, I immediately thought of you. Have you ever experienced brutality at the hands of evil foreign captors? What advice would you give me for when I travel abroad?

-Perplexedly,

Ralph Rack

Dear Mr. Rack,

Having recently returned by international visa from the foreign locale of Bellevue, I feel very well prepared to answer this question.

Ralph, simply avoid what-

ever law enforcement body that is active in the area that you plan to travel in. Take my example, while vacationing in Bellevue, I was several times accosted by the feared Bellevue patrol who, carrying no fire arms, resort to shouting at fleeing felons such as myself the words, "Stop, or I'll say stop again!" I think that you will find by maintaining a low profile, you will not only avoid those evil foreign captors that you mentioned, but also remain free from strange generalizations by short men.

Dear Den,

I have this problem. You see, I am a thrill-seeking stud whom the McGavock basketball team adores. But lately, I have met this one beautiful girl and I have fallen in love. How do I go out with her and say goodbye to my horde?

-SIGNED Le Captain De L'Amour (The Captain of Love)

Dear Captain,

I, too, understand your problem. In fact, just the other day our great friend Billy Frist was telling us about being surrounded by scantily clad Sabines. And from hearing Billy, we can only tell you to assemble them in one room and tell them of your intentions. If they become angry and resentful, leave them with dignity, but if they want one last memory, all we can say is be strong and do not waiver from your course.

The opinions and statements stated by Renard François are not necessarily the opinions of The Bell Ringer. If you have any questions for Renard, put them on a piece of paper and give them to either Renard, Jason Patrick, or Marion Southerland.

Montgomery Bell Academy
Nashville, Tennessee

ENTERTAINMENT

CULTURE ON THE RiSe

by David Workman

staff writer

"In the midst of January, cold weather displaces the warmth as birds continue migrating south seeking a peaceful home to call their own, where the wild things roam... 'Music? Oh, my!' exclaimed Mother Goose...and from that moment on things began to change..."

Shortly after a revised edition of Grimm's *Fairy Tales* was completed, Mother Goose packed her bags and headed to Music City, USA. Why? How? What? Simply another tourist desiring to catch the action at the 1989 Nashville Music Extravaganza which took place January 12-14 at The Cannery, Sal's Rock Block, Exit/In, and Elliston Square.

The Shakers, Raging Fire, Gov't Cheese, Jane His Wife, Jaime Kyle, The Dusters, Jet Black Factory, The Claimstakers, Rumble Circus, Afrikan Drum Festival, Will and the Bushmen, and Clockhammer were among the many who performed. This unique assortment of musicians from the local Music City area created an unusual atmosphere composed of pop-rock, soul, humor, "Beatlesque harmonies," metallic pop, acoustic folk, neo-country, passionate tunes, somber lyrics, twangs, blues, industrial dance-rock, and intense ritual African rhythms, etc. This three day shindig enlivened the spirits of many moody Americans

and displayed the extraordinary talents of various artists.

...and then, from a distance, little Red Riding Hood's mystical powers evoked a force...Beyond Nature, indeed, she attempted the incredible undertaking of SLAM DANCING...!

In addition to the unusually large crowd of loyal fans, in attendance was WRVU, Vanderbilt's "91-Rock" radio station, featuring live coverage (from The Cannery) of Friday's (January 13) and Saturday's (January 14) activities, allowing Nashville's radio audience to realize just what they were missing. Those fortunate ones able to attend the festivities enjoyed Nashville's emerging pop culture.

The *Nashville Banner*, one of Nashville's daily newspapers, quoted Steve West of Go West Productions commenting on the 1989 Extravaganza, "More than any other single event, the Extravaganza has changed the perception of Nashville being a rock music town as well as a country town." Furthermore, Dave Previtt, lead singer for Paradise Lost, one of several bands which acclaimed a major recording contract during last year's festivities, stated in the same article, "You can go from playing dead nights at Elliston Square during the middle of the week to becoming one of the hottest bands in town."

Evidently, the dreams of a

few eager musicians came true before the conclusion of this year's Extravaganza. Jane His Wife, Gov't Cheese, and Raging Fire were among

those who received major recording contracts. Other groups such as Afrikan Drum Festival only wished to create an atmosphere and express a

simple message of harmony.

...at last, as the year 2154 approached, Elvis found himself...



T.V. or Not T.V.?

by Rob Lentz

staff writer

All of us at MBA know the importance of maintaining a well-balanced life. Our own school motto reminds us - nay, commands us - to observe a broad and well-rounded lifestyle. To be gentlemen, to strive for academic greatness, to pursue bodily perfection through athletics and a balanced diet that includes, above all, fiber, are the principles that guide the MBA student in his growth as a broad-minded man of the world. In our modern society these virtues are fast becoming extinct, and we as students are upholding a grand tradi-

tion in our dauntless pursuit of perfection.

Unfortunately, most of us become so absorbed in our own personal improvement in the aforementioned three areas that we neglect certain vitally important aspects of life. We ignore our mundane obligations at home, we neglect our pets, we even awaken at dawn only to ignore a glorious sunrise in favor of personal grooming. Indeed, the worst injustice of all is our neglect of the family television set. Yea, in our haste and diligence we too often turn our backs on our lifelong friend. My pen trembles as I recall the common complaints of the

MBA student: "I am too busy. I just don't have the time." You don't have the time for a couple of hours of television? Well, by golly, MAKE the time. What one must realize is that the television set is a tool, an appliance, much like a microwave oven or blender, and it is just as important - if not more so - in the modern American household. Psychologists and parents of toddlers whine about the fact that we are bringing up mindless "video junkies," that American youngsters watch too much television. But, my friends, in my mind too much television is not enough. There aren't enough

hours in the day to produce "too much" television, and here the overzealous, behind-the-times student and athlete

is depriving himself needlessly by neglecting the T.V. set: in one day there are hours continued on page nine...

Northwestern Mutual Life

William S. Cochran
CLU, General Agent

162 Fourth Avenue North
Nashville, TN 37219
742-8700

ENTERTAINMENT

Nashville Radio — I Want My CD Player

by Jim Haynes

What has happened to Nashville radio? "Lite" music has slowly begun to weaken the integrity of the radio. The Rebel 100 was probably the best radio station in Nashville, going against the mainstream conservatives and playing the best non-commercial music. The Rebel introduced The Church, The Cure, The Smiths, Midnight Oil, The Smithereens and New Order to Nashville. However, the Rebel was brought out as commercial "lite" music permeated the radio.

As for the rest of the radio, there are only a few stations that continue to play good music. Starting from the bottom of the dial, 90 WPLN has the best news for Middle Tennessee and the show for all public radio "All Things Considered"; a top program for the news, opinion, and contemporary culture with a twist of satirical humor. It does get boring at times and the only music is classical and new age.

Vanderbilt's "91 Rock" WRVU is "Nashville's only alternative." By far, it is the most diverse station in Nash-

ville with a different show every day: Sunday-international (France, Spain, Germany, and Russia) followed by bluegrass and jazz; Monday-the dance show (New Order, Yellow, etc.); Tuesday-the Gothic show (Cocteau Twins, Einstürzende Neubauten, Birthday Party, etc.); Thursday-the local show (Raging Fire, Claimstakers, Jet Black Factory, etc.) followed by death disco and industrial noise (Jane's Addiction, My Dad is Dead, etc.); Friday-all request night for Vanderbilt parties; and Saturday-reggae show (Bob Marley, Black Uhuru, Aswad) and the soul show (Kool Moe Dee, The Possies, etc.). During the day, 91 plays what it is known for the best of the underground with Siouxsie and the Banshees, Joy Division, The Sisters of Mercy, and other alternative bands. However, most of the music is too obscure even for a college radio station. Most of good songs are lost in the dirges of the distortion and screams. Many find this station far too strange. Unfortunately during holidays, 91 is usually off the air leaving Nashville without anything bizarre.

WQQK 92Q is a very good station for dancing music. The programming is directed at blacks with the excellent dance music of Prince, Bobby Brown, and Jody Watley. Raps are also pitched in with Tone Loc and Ice-T. However, selected pop music slips with its hard rhythms, but, the pop tunes do not really hurt the integrity of the dance music. There isn't much diversity in the music in that it pretty much sounds the same.

Who cares about 93 WZEE's elevator music?

Nashville, which is known for its country music, has only two country stations. Nashville 95 WSM has a very conservative blend of country and bluegrass. "Riders in the Sky" is a nightly show with a country and a pretty good bluegrass band. The news is very good but the programming tends to be dry and dull.

WMIX, 96, claims to mix hits from 60's, 70's, and 80's. Although there is a lot of diversity, the mixture consists of Air Supply, Neil Diamond, Rick Astley, and Michael Jackson. This station shows how bad music can get with 96's boring programming.

98 WSIX has the best country music in Nashville

with Randy Travis, Hank Williams Jr., K.D. Lang, and K.T. Oslin. Gerry House if the funniest early morning DJ. It is too bad that Nashville chooses worse stations over this extremely funny show. You don't even need to like country to appreciate Gerry House's humor, but the music tends to get repetitive but it is still very good country.

100 WWLT is the recreation of the Rebel. There is no diversity with dull, overplayed music.

103 WKDF has been the frontrunner in mainstream rock and will probably continue in that direction. KDF plays solid rock 'n' roll with Robert Plant and Guns and Roses. KDF has the best DJ's in the business with Carl P. Mayfield, Sharron, and Kidd Redd. However, 103 plays very little music between commercials and the DJ's wasting time talking. Some of this mainstream music unfortunately contains: Def Leppard, Europe, and Poison; which is played again and again.

104 the Fox is the best station for the masses with good diversity of classical rock. David Bowie, the Grateful Dead, The Beatles,

The Who, Eric Clapton, and Led Zeppelin are some of the legends played on the Fox. Even modern bands like U2 and INXS are played, since they will be the classics of the 80's. There are too many commercials, like 103. How many times can they play Steve Winwood and The Beach Boys, who have made "comeback" albums that are clearly just overplayed pop music?

107 WYHY is simply bad. The whole station is just an extended version of T.V.'s Practical Jokes and Bloopers. It is not good on the television and it is not good on the radio. Coyote McCloud rants and raves over silly childish jokes while playing Bon Jovi, Tiffany, Debbie Gibson, and the rest of the Dirty Dancing soundtrack. The music shows a lack of originality that is produced only to sell millions of copies to the masses.

Well, I only found a few stations that are any good: 91 WRVU for alternative, 92 WQQK for dance, 98 WSIX for country, and 104 WGFX for classic rock. My recommendation is to listen to tapes, compact discs, etc. of your own musical preference: the radio is a big waste of time...

TV or Not TV?

...continued from page eight

and hours of programming that offer unique, creative entertainment and information. True, some of what we see on television is just plain garbage, the attempts of short sighted network weasels to manipulate the small screen for its financial value, ignoring the indelible impact of T.V. on the life of the twentieth and twenty-first-century man.

But, my fellow students, to ignore television is, indeed, to ignore history and the future, to deprive the mind of inspiration and stimuli it cannot receive from any other source. Of course, nothing can re-

place the human mind, and once it has missed a really well-made mini-series it may never be the same again. We must use our minds, manipulate their potential, and develop them through television. We in the modern world have the opportunity to expand the bounds of our minds in ways that our ancestors could never have imagined, an opportunity brought about by television. On that small (or large, if you have one of those projection models) screen we have the ability to travel and experience the entire world in the span of a few hours. Too many of us lose television in the shuffle, ironically missing out on the greatness of the world we are pre-

paring with such diligence to enter.

For example, nothing ladens my heart so much as to hear of the sacrifice of meaningful network airtime for the sake of homework. Mind! You must understand that I do not intend to diminish the importance of studies in favor of television. On the contrary, I encourage academic pursuits accompanied by careful time management in order to gain the maximum potential of yourself and your television set. A carefully organized schedule is essential in the balance of academics, athletics, and television to achieve proportional consumption of spare time. What does all this mean? It means

that we must make time for television viewing, for it is simply too important to neglect! Most importantly, schoolwork must be handled first: we must strive to accomplish as much as possible A) at school, B) in the early off-the-air morning hours, and C) in the afternoons, if possible, clearing those all-important prime-time network hours for uninterrupted viewing pleasure. As for those of us with afternoon athletics, we must dedicate and sacrifice our bodies for the reward of television at night, having aggressively attacked and accomplished our academic tasks for the day.

Now that our time is free, then, what shall we watch? That decision, of course, is up to you the viewer, but offer these suggestions, the critic's (my) choice, if you will: the new "Mission Impossible", "MacGyver", "Matlock", "Moonlighting", "Thirty-something", "The Equalizer",

or "Night Court", (same time slot), "Cheers", (highly recommended), "L.A. Law", and "It's Gary Shandling's Show". Consult your news paper or T.V. Guide for time and station.

Please remember people, that no matter who you are, you need television; but it needs you in order to work its powerful magic, so don't ignore it.



MOON TUXEDO
2109 Abbott Marlin Road • Nashville, Tennessee 37215
(GREEN HILLS)

The Bell Ringer

SPORTS

Junior Varsity Basketball Team Robbed

by Jason Ritchason

reporter

On Tuesday, December 20, members of the junior varsity basketball teams were robbed while practicing in the gym.

Around 9:45 a.m., a black man, approximately 6' 2", wearing jeans and a yellow garment, was startled by a late-arriving player, Richard Arendale, who was then currently on the injured-reserved list. Richard asked him about what he was doing, and the man simply said that he was changing. After some confusion, the man quickly ran out of the varsity locker room. After he had chased the culprit to the black doors facing Montgomery Bell Avenue,

Richard immediately went up stairs to the gymnasium and reported the happening to the coaches.

When everyone was notified that some wallets had just been stolen, the entire team went and checked their clothes to see if their wallets had been taken. To many players' great dismay, they had been the victims of an easily executed theft. It appears that the man simply walked into the building, went straight to the varsity locker room, where the MBA honor-code lockers are present, and took as many wallets as he could find. The man not only got over two-hundred dollars in cash, but also made

off with credit cards, drivers' licenses, social security cards, gift certificates, and many personal items. (One person even had his home key stolen, which was in his wallet at that time.)

This theft brought up a curious and puzzling question.

When the honor code was established at MBA, the founders thought mainly of protecting the schools high standards by making stealing an extremely heinous act. In doing so, the varsity locker room served as an honor code test. The lockers in the varsity room are open and free for anyone to take anything which catches their eye. This

temptation is a very good step toward total honesty and development of a true gentleman. However, can the high standards of the MBA honor code be trusted with common public? It is not a factor of honesty within the school, but the protection of valuables from the dishonest elements of the public.

This theft was not totally the fault of the code, but it does reveal a flaw in the system.

The next day at practice, the coaches devised a way that prevented anyone from simply walking into the locker rooms without going through the gymnasium. They now use a bag into

which everyone puts his valuables, which was placed in the gym so that it would not be taken unknowingly.

This theft sets a very important precedent. I believe that from now on, the coaches of the teams that practice during the holiday breaks will remember this incident and do all that they can to solve the problem of stealing. Even during the after school practices, however, it would seem very easy to rob the entire locker room without an obstacle. The real question is can the MBA honor code, as well as the school athletes practicing under this honor code, trust the public with their honor?

Junior Varsity Basketball

by Chris Hall

reporter

With the Hendersonville JV Tourney ahead, the JV Basketball squad is sporting a 7-7 record. Coming back from Christmas break, the team recorded impressive victories over Stratford, Hunters Lane, and Ryan.

Leading the scoring barrage against Stratford were Charles Williams and Tate McDaniel. But hey, the defensive wizardry of Ken Downey is still intact, as the JV defeated Hunters Lane 64-63. Later, the defense provided the winning margin. Also aiding the cause were Drew Healy's 18 points.

After Hunters lane, the squad traveled to Elliston Place, where they mercilessly extinguished the "Irish Pride." After a tough loss to Overton, the J.V. is optimistically looking forward to the Hendersonville Tournament.

Tennis Preview

by Mad Dog

alumnus reporter

The tennis season seems to be already shaping up fortuitously for the MBA team this year. Team captain Bill Chery will lead the Red with two State Championships and a good chance of winning a third. The doubles teams of Leighton Thomas and Sharpe Belote, last year's district and

Vanderbilt Slams Door on Riflery

by Kelsey Fitzpatrick and Thayer Smith

reporters

The 1989 Riflery Team started off with a record setting turnout for tryouts. After several weeks at practice, the team was narrowed to Jim Abernathy, Anthony Albrecht, Scott Dolittle, Eric Falk, Kelsey Fitzpatrick, David Lockyear, David Moroney, Chuck Nichols, Sany Oleiniczak, Greg Parker, Shannon Price, and Thayer Smith.

Beginning on December 7, the team began practice for the first tournament. The first match, on January 14, was a disappointing second place to perennial favorite David Lipscomb. On January 28, the team ambushed the Lipscomb team and took first.

Unfortunately, this victory could have been the last, due to the untimely closing of the Vanderbilt Rifle Range. Hopefully, the team will be given another chance to prove themselves later in the year.

region champions, and Frank Drowota and Andy Underwood, runners-up to Thomas and Belote, will also be a big factor in the team's season. Oman Sloan, along with Carter McNabb, Daniel Donelson, Andrew Coulam, and others, will hopefully make this year's season a great success.

Sports Picture of the Month



by Winston Caldwell

Sports Picture of the Month™ is a new addition to the Sports section of The Bell Ringer. Submissions (on film, negative, or print) should be given to Devraj Basu or Oman Sloan.

SPORTS

Varsity Wrestlers Roll Into The State

by Dan Brooks

reporter
This year's wrestling team have had a very successful season. The awe-inspiring Big Red, led by Billy Frist and Greg Downer, entered Brentwood High School on Friday, and when the smoke had cleared from the fierce competition on Saturday, five wrestlers were on their way to the State Tournament: Billy, Greg, David Trainer, Dan Brooks, and Brett Sanders.

Billy rolled through his competition including a Brentwood High kid who had beaten him in the semi-finals of the District. In the finals, Billy wrestled a close match with returning state champ Jody Jones of Brentwood, but Jones scratched out the win. Greg, who won the District title, also had a very close match in the finals. Rob Baker of Lipscomb edged out Greg 5-4 in the match that received the "Best Match"

award of the tournament. Brett Sanders, a freshman, won fourth place by beating a guy who had pinned him in 30 seconds earlier in the year. David "Rocky" Trainer alternated between romping on his competition and flirting with his girlfriend Jill, a Brentwood High cheerleader. David beat fourth seed Butch Mayberry to place David in the semi-finals against Jason Cook. David lost a very close match against Cook and won 5th place. Dan Brooks, who had a mild shoulder problem during the tournament, still rolled through his first three matches, but he had to default his last three matches on account of the shoulder. Despite the defaults he won 6th place. Lance Carney also wrestled very well during the tournament, but because of an incredibly hard draw, a chance to qualify for the State Tournament eluded him.



Devraj Basu

Martin Roberts in the midst of a heated match.



Devraj Basu

This Pearl-Cohn wrestler treaches this Spencer Leek the finer points of mat kissing.

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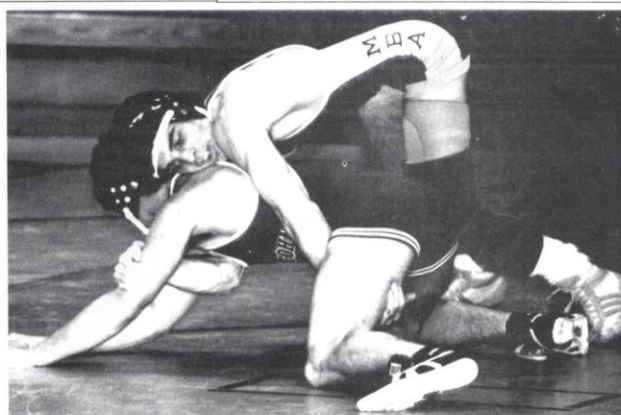
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Good luck to the swimming team in its quest for another district title!

-from a friend



Devraj Basu

Billy Frist verifies his superiority by forcing the Pearl-Cohn wrestler to succumb to his wishes.

Freshmen Wrestlers Go to Region

by Mark Szydlo

reporter
Withholding a tradition, the 1988-1989 freshman wrestling team prospered greatly. The freshmen were led by the unmatched wrestling guru Coach Gaither. The overall team record was an outstanding 7-2-1. The victories were easily muscled from such notorious opponents as Father Ryan, Franklin Jr. High, and Brentwood High. The only losses came from Hillwood

and McGavock.

In the seventeen team competition at McGavock, the MBA freshman team placed second. With two first-place finishers, David Frazier and Bo Bartholomew, two second place finishers, Brett Sanders and Chris Johnston, two third place finishers, Carter Baker and Eric Crawford, and one fourth place finisher, Mark Szydlo, the team easily defeated third place Hillwood. The team

again showed its strength by placing second at the Overton Invitational.

To wrap up the successful year, the MBA freshmen received third place in the Regional Tournament. Brett Sanders placed first in the 103 pound class. Bartholomew repeated his feat with top honors in the 175 pound class. Eric Crawford placed third in the 152 pound class and Morgan Parker took fourth place in the 163 pound class.

SPORTS

The Ups and Downs of Varsity Basketball's Season

by James Gooch

staff reporter

The 1988-89 Varsity Basketball team has experienced an up and down season so far marked by injuries, exciting wins, and heartbreaking defeats.

On December 16, the Big Red met Pearl-Cohn in a district clash and in their best outing of the year, dumped the previously unbeaten Firebirds 49-36. The defense was outstanding as was the offense led by Taylor Mayes and Walter Southwood.

After a break for Christmas, the Big Red traveled to beautiful Brentwood, Tennessee to play in the Brentwood Journal Bruin Invitational at Brentwood High School. That same week the team learned it would be without Walter Southwood for three weeks due to a back injury and was replaced by sophomore Taylor Mayes.

In the first game, MBA beat host Brentwood in a hard-fought 59-58 victory behind James Gooch's 20 points and Alex Waddey's steal and lay-up to win it with five seconds left. That win set the stage for a showdown in the finals with arch-rival Hillsboro. Playing with only seven players, the Big Red

carried a four point lead into the fourth quarter against the powerful Burros. Unfortunately, the lack of depth on the bench and some unlucky bounces gave Hillsboro a hard-fought 73-63 triumph despite Bo Healy's 18 points. Seniors Bo Healy and James Gooch were named to the All-Tournament Team.

After Christmas Break, MBA beat Hillwood 48-41 behind a strong defensive effort led by Alden Smith. Next came a showdown with one of Nashville's best teams, Stratford, who carried a 16-2 record into the game. Behind great execution of Coach Thoni's game plan, the Big Red gave Stratford all they could handle in a heartbreaking 49-48 defeat. The following Tuesday MBA hosted powerful Hunters Lane, 15-3, and lost another close match 64-56.

The Big Red then journeyed to the Evil Empire of Ryan where they topped Ryan in the season's most exciting game, 70-68, on Bo Healy's tip-in at the buzzer and some rowdy crowd support.

After a break for exams, MBA hosted another one of Nashville's best teams, Whites Creek, which was on a 17 game winning streak.



Coach Thoni talks with the team.



Matt Fisher sinks the free throw, to Dr. Ward's delight

Swimmers Ready for State

by Brent Cummings

reporter

The 1988-89 MBA swim team started training last November, working its way to the state swim meet at the end of February at the UT-Knoxville. Although currently first, the Big Red swimmers are building toward a strong finish to the season.

Led by senior co-captains Warren Downs and Jay Joyner, the Big Red team has qualified more swimmers in events for the state meet than ever before in the team's history. Senior Warren Downs has swum the qualifying times in both the 100M fly and the 50M free. All three of the juniors have also qualified: Brent Cummings in the 100M breast, 100M fly, and 200 IM (individual medley); Scott Yates in the 50M free; and

Pieter Foster in the 50M and 100M free. Sophomore Brice Hillis, a new addition to the team, has made the cut-off time in the 50M free, while eighth-grader Bo Sundias qualified in the 100M breaststroke and 200 IM along with new-comer Andrew Publow in the 50M free. Senior Jay Joyner and freshman Matt Foster are both close in the 50M free and still have two meets left where they are expected to qualify.

The Big Red swim team has one dual meet left against LaVerne, followed by the conference meet and the state meet. At the conference meet, which will be held at TSU, MBA will face teams from the Nashville region, including Ryan, Brentwood High, Murfreesboro Oakland, Murfreesboro Riverdale,

Hendersonville High, Galatin, and the USN. The MBA swimmers anticipate a strong performance at this meet and seek a third consecutive top three finish. At the state meet, the Big Red will face tough competition from over forty teams from all over the state. In addition to individual qualifiers, the swim team will have a 200 medley relay in which the team hopes to finish in the top eight.

MBA hung tough in the first half with some fantastic defense and the score at half-time was only 20-11. However, in the second half, the powerful Cobras held off MBA with a 60-44 victory. After so many close games, MBA lost another close one to Overton 68-56 after trailing by two with three minutes left in the game.

The team has come far this year under the leadership of Coach Thoni and has been in a position to win many games. Captains James Gooch and Bo Healy along with Alden Smith, Alex Waddey, and Walter Southwood have had excellent support off the bench from Mike Seshul, Tate McDaniel, and Matt Fisher. With the experience they have gained, the Big Red are optimistic about their chances of reaching the Regional Tournament. The basketball team would also like to thank Sheldon "Bull" Griffin and his clan for their support so far this season.

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